



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

14th March 2013

Nag 1 Student Achievement/Curriculum/Assessment

Assessments completed and students identified for extra teacher aide assistance.

Writing attitude survey has also been conducted and will be used for comparison at the end of the year.

Key Points from the survey and possible solutions:

- Children seem to think they spend enough time writing at school
- Writing stories (fiction) is not popular
 - Move away from fiction to non-fiction writing (science writing)
- Maori students have a positive attitude to writing
- Attitudes to writing changes around age 8 and 9
 - Teaching how to plan for differing writing genres
 - Placing a lesser emphasis on surface feature for some students i.e. correct spelling, capitals
 - Allowing greater variety of completion times
 - Giving clear contexts for writing
 - Allow students to write without planning, drafting and editing
 - Provide writing templates, planning formats and editing guides
 - Use the computer more for writing
 - Teach keyboarding skills
- Large number of students not writing at home
 - Develop home school partnership and the use of MOE guide - Supporting Your Child's Learning

School goals for term 1 for English are

- Learning keyboard skills – installation of Tux Typing onto all computers
- Teaching students how to use spell-checking and synonym finding resources
- Learning how to best develop students writing vocabulary
- Focus on tense – present, past, future within context
- Class and individual blogs to share student's writing – teachers learning how to blog and wiki
- Visual language component – layout, titles, borders etc
- RTL John Musket training year 7/8s as peers tutors to hear junior children read

Significant or strategic curriculum focus currently being implemented:

3 Peaks Cluster Science PD on Wednesday with Keith McKenzie was superb. Practical hands on experiments with a focus on the physical and material world using basic equipment.

Aim to contract Keith in term 2 to assist us with our goals on science writing, boys and Maori achievement.

EOTC camp at Sutton was a success for all involved – no bikes this year but big hikes to explore historic places.

Nag2 Charter, Self-review and Planning

Lynne McKinney from the MOE has asked for the correct date in the charter to say 2013 – 2015 and to have the National Standards data presented in their spreadsheet.

Nag 3 Personnel

Still juggling teacher aide time around students with June presently employed as an unregistered teacher to mop up the banked staffing funds.

Nag 4 Finances

Nono pay continues to cause significant issues. Significant time is being used by Dawn to manage the errors. Staff with overpayments have not yet been asked to payback.

Otago Community Trust won't take retrospective claims – they also need an ICT plan with application – on hold.

Property

Fan heater in room 1 intermittent and room 3 heater switch broken. Electrician and heater being organised by Dawn.

Working bee this Saturday – concrete edging of court, silicon roof channel, gutters, bouldering handholds, checking of playground equipment, tree removal, basketball backboards and edges.

PD gang arranged for Saturday March 23 for swimming pool drains, playground stone raking and weeds.

Nag 5 Health and Safety

Bouldering wall handholds breaking and room 3's heater switch not functioning.

Nag 6 Legislative requirements

Roll - 43

Attendance - watching!

Nathan